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REMARKS

This Amendment is being submitted in response to a telephone conference between the undersigned and Examiner Yao on September 24, 2004.

By way of background, Examiner Yao telephoned the undersigned several weeks ago to indicate that the claims in this application lack unity of invention. In particular, Examiner Yao noted that the application contains three different claim groupings – Claims 1-6, Claims 7-16 and Claims 17-20. Applicants responded to the request to elect one of the three claim groupings by electing Claims 1-6.

In the most recent telephone conference on September 24, 2004, Examiner Yao telephoned the undersigned to advise that Claims 1-6 are allowable. Examiner Yao also indicated that he would rejoin Claims 7-16 as such claims are also allowable. Further, Examiner Yao indicated that he would be willing to rejoin Claims 17-20 and allow such claims if Claim 17 was amended to recite, consistent with his search for the elected claim grouping, that the barrier layer is an aluminum foil or an inorganic-oxide vapor deposition film. This Amendment is being submitted to amend Claim 17 in such a manner. It is thus believed that all of the claims in this application are allowable.

Examiner Yao also requested submission of a new Abstract in one-paragraph form. Further, Examiner Yao requested correction of the number of the Japanese document cited in line 16 of page 4 of the application. Both of those matters have also been addressed by way of this Amendment.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

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Should any questions arise in connection with this matter, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: September 28, 2004

By: _____

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